Historians at Loggerheads as to the Actual Date.

EX-GOVERNOR GRAHAM'S STATEMENT.

Cornwallis and the British First Defied on May 20, 1775.

How Colonel McKnitt's Paper First Came to Light.

LET US HAVE THE TRUTH.

In view of the intense interest now manifested n reference to the Mecklenburg Declaration of andependence we give the following highly instructive chapters from the

MEMORES OF WILLIAM A. GRAHAM. I esteem it the duty of some one who has had opportunities of acquaintance with the Revolutionary history of the State to vindicate the authenticity of the Declaration of Independence by the delegates of the people of the county of Mec-lenburg on the 20th of May, 1775, against the attempts recently made to bring it into discredit.
With some recollections of the discussion of this sopic, running back more than half a century, I bave taken no part in it heretofore. The event becurred (as I believe it did occur) in the immediate vicinity of the residence of the families from which I am descended. Several of my near relations, including my father, when it was called in question soon after its publication in the Gazzette of 1819-20, gave their testimony as witnesses who had been personally present at the transaction, with a reference to some of the circumstances of the occasion as well as to precedent and subsequent events. I deemed it proper not to participate in the controversy as to the credibility of this testimony while these witnesses were alive, the more especially as thought the cairm on the part of Mecklenburg well sustained by others. But those who crampioned the canse of the State (for it has been made a state matter) have all passed away. Martin, Jo. Seawell Jones, Foote, Hawks are no longer among the living. The witnesses to whom I have alluded and those others whose evidence was then taken, their comrades and neighbors with whom they had passed through the flery trials of the war have taken no part in it heretofore. The event

the living. The witnesses to whom I have alluded and those others whose evidence was then taken, their contrades and neighbors with whom they had passes through the flery trials of the war which ensued, are all the wise dead. We may now speak of them without flattery and, I trust, without passes through the flery trials of the war which ensued, are all the wise dead. We may now speak of them without flattery and, I trust, without passes through the flery trials of the war which are trial to the coolers of the coolers of the coolers. The CLAIM OF MERCHENBURG.

The CLAIM OF MERCHENBURG.

The position we maintain is very readily stated. It is that the resistance to British authority which assumed the form of war in 173, was not begundent assumed the form of war in 173, was not begundent assumed the form of war in 173, was not begundent assumed the form of war in 173, was not begundent assumed the form of war in 174, was not begundent assumed the form of war in 175, was not begundent assumed the form of war in 175, was not begundent assumed the form of war in 175, was not begundent assumed the form of war in 175, was not begundent assumed the form of war in 175, was not begundent assumed the form of war in 175, was not begundent assumed the form of war in 175, was not begundent assumed the form of war in 175, was not begundent assumed the form of war in 175, was not begundent assumed the form of war in 175, was not begundent assumed the form of war in 175, was not begundent assumed the form of war in 175, was not begundent assumed the form of war in 175, was not begundent assumed the form of war in 175, was not begundent assumed the form of war in 175, was not begundent assumed the form of war in 175, and of war

But it was not merely our citizens, including those of the highest summence in intelligence, culture and parrottem throughout rae State, who were charmed into the belief of the truthfumess of this occurrence; the State itself took up the name of our heroic people of Mecklenburg as a flower not unworthy to be worn in the garland which decked her own brow. At the session of 1830-31, while a view to perpetuate some evidence of the transaction, certain certificates in the ma-1830-31, with a view to perpetuate some evidence of the transaction, certain certificates in the mature of depositions of witnesses then riving, who had personal knowledge of it, were procured and had before the General A-sembly—witnesses whose contracters were all known through their representatives, and who could readily have been subjected to cross-examination. These were referred to a committee composed of Thomas G. rolk, John Eragg, Evan Alexander, Louis D. Henry and Alexander Meneill. Tais committee made a report afterning the evidence to be satisfactory, and directing the Governor to cause to be published in a pamphlet the said report, with an introductory narrative to be prepared by himseli, together with the Meckenburg Declaration, the names of the delegates composing the

meeting and the certificates of the witnesses testi-fying to the circumstances attending said declara-tion; also, the proceedings of the Cumberland As-sociation; and that in a separate pamphiet there should be reprinted the journal of the Provincial Congress, held at Haifax on the 3d of April, 1778, in which the delegates in the Continental Congress from North Carolina were instructed to unite in voting for absolute independence, an in-struction given in advance of all the other colo-nies. in 1836, on the occasion of revising the statutes

lies.

In 1834, on the occasion of revising the statutes of the State and printing them for distribution, the Legislature chacted by a law drawn by the late Governor freeds, chairman of the Coommission of Revisal, that a copy of the Meckienburg Declaration of Independence, with the names of the delegates, should be prefixed to that work.

In 1856, by a joint resolution, the two houses authorized a new edition of the pamphiet of 1830-31, concerning the Meckienburg Declaration, to be published with certain other documents pertaining to our Revolutionary, distory.

In 1856, upon a new revision of the statutes, it again, by solemn act, directed that the Meckienburg Declaration of Independence be prefixed to that work.

Mistorians who support the Meckienburg Claim.

What has been the testimony borne of it by writing of history? And first, by those of North Carolinary Francis Navier Martin, a native Frenchman, but long a citizen of North Carolina, a compiler of one edition of her statutes by order of the Legislature, before removing to Meckienburg Declaration with the accompanying circumstances in full—

2. Joseph Scawell Jones, in 1834, published his 1 full :-2. Joseph Senwell Jones, in 1834, published his coume, a defence of North Carolina, upon this

question.

3. The Rev. Dr. William H. Poote, of Virginia, in

a. The Rev. Dr. William H. Poote, of Virginia, in his interesting "Sketches of North Carolina," put forth in 1844, also gives full particulars of this great event, with as approving an admiration as if he mai been a matter of the state.

4. Colonel J. H. Wheeler, in his sketches of the history of North Carolina in 1861, sives to this heroic act of her provincial inhabitants his cordial appropartion.

5. The Rev. Dr. Hawks, to whom every citizen of the State should led indebted for the zeal and intelligence of his interest in becalf of the isme and sonor of his matter and, in the New York historical nocice; in 1852, and in a still more elaborate performance of she same hature at Charlotte, and it to the satisfaction of our most ardent pairtots.

rate performance of the same hature at Charlotte, and at the University of the State in 1857, maintained it to the satisfaction of our most artest pairtots.

5. it was recognized in Pitkin's "Political and Civil History of the United States."

7. The Rev. Dr. Augustine 1. Smythe. a distinguished Presbytsman divine, of Charleston, S. C., is a pamphic issued in 1847, writes an interesting disservation to prove that both the Meckenburg and the maintain declarations, in the particulars in which they seemble such other, were suggested or taken from "A General Confession or General Bout for the Maintenance of Titur Religion and the King's Person and Letate." put lorth to be stated by the members of the Prepaylering Church of Scotland more than a century bedies American independence was received on.

The Union of The Controley as reserved on.

WHEN WAS IT? be contain a copy of the proceedings of the meeting of the committee of the people of Meckienburg, in Charlotte, on the 20th of May, 1775, and the resolutions of independence appeared in the Raleigh Register, in a communication from Dr. Joseph McKnitt Alexander, a prominent citizen of

Joseph McKnitt Alexander, a prominent citizen of Mecklenburg, signed Joseph McKnitt, a signature within he is well known to have often used, ontiting his surname, from the commonness of the name of Alexander in that region, and by the same designation he was irequently spoken of and addressed. Along with it, as another relic of antiquity, was sent by him and published in the same paper a copy of a proclamation of the Royal Governor, Josian Martin, dated "Chariotte Town, October 3, 1789," while the army of Lord Cornwallis occupied that town. On this letter i may, in the sequel make a further remark. The first of the above mentioned papers was prefaced by an editorial notice, stating that the fact it announced was not generally known to the world, but that the editor had it from unquestionable authority, and he published it that it might go down to posterity.

APAMS AND JEFFERSON ON ITS GENUINENESS.

Being copied into the Essex Register, of Mussachnsetts, this proper was sent by Mr. John Adams to Mr. Jefferson, with a letter remarking that "the common sentiment of America at that period was never so well expressed before of since." Mr. Jefferson, in a reply, dated July 9, 1819, among other observations said:—"I believe it sporious—I deem it a very unjustifiable quiz, like that of the volcano so infinitely related to us as having broken out in North Carolina some ball dozen years ago, in that part of the country, and, perhaps, in that very county of Mecklenburg, for I do not remember its precise locasity." After expressing doubt as to whether this paper bad been really taken from the Riele in Register, saying that it had not been seen by aim in the paper of Mr. Ritchne or the National Intelligencer, nor in Williamson's "History of North Carolina" nor other authors whom he names, and that it appeals to Mr. Alexander, who was dead, to Caswell, Hughes and Hooper, all dead, he proceeds:—"When Mr. Henry's resolution, far short of tidependence, few like ignuting through every paper and kindled both sides of the date, th

Rock Hill, S. C., informs me that in 1813, when himself a student in the achoemy of the Rev. Mr. Wallace, of Providence. Mecklenburg, a son-in-law of John McKnitt Alexander, he neard said Alexander, upon the occasion of a visit of a moath at that place, relate the circumstances of the Declaration of Independence on the 20th of May, 1775, and the further fact that, having been in Philadelphia afterward in that year, he communicated the facts and circumstances to Dr. Franklin, who expressed appropriation of the act.

WHY ITS AUTHENTICITY WAS NOT DISCUSSED PREVIOUS TO 1819.

That this striking event was not made the subject of commentary in our newspapers until pub-

pressed approbation of the act.

WHY ITS ACTHENTICITY WAS NOT DISCUSSED PREThat this striking event was not made the subject of commentary in our newspacers until publispied in 1819 should occasion no surprise to those
who have studied the history of the State and
know in what a confused and neglected mase all
its materials then lay. If so well an informed
American as Mr. Jefferson must be conceded to
have been in 1819 did not know the position of
Mecklenburg on the map, and suposed it might
adjoin funcomoe, the locality of the fictitous
volcano played off as a newspaper hoaz, from
which it is one hundred mises distant, with the
Blue Ridge towering between—who. except her
own people, should be expected to know her hissory? The historians to whom he refers—Williamson, whose work extends out to 1771; Horry,
Rampsy, Marshall, Jones, Girardin, Wirt—
nov one of them had penetrated so far into our
public history as to be aware of the resolutions of
the sist of May, 1775, or to discover the well estaotished fact that North Carolina, in her provincial Congress at Hailfax on the 12th of April,
1775, instructed her delegates in the Continental
Congress to vote for absolute independence of the
British Growa. If impute no unjust design; it
was perhaps our own muit in not causing it to
be made generally known.) Yet some of them do
mention that Virginia gave such instruction in
May succeeding, and suppose that to nave been
the cartiest movement of the kind. If they were
thus uninformed as to our public and general history how are their omissions authority in respect to
a popular meeting, a local assemblage in the county
of Mecklenburg some months earlier? The fact
is the revival of the knowledge of the resolutions
at Hailfax was made about the same time and by
the same individual, Dr. Joseph McKnitt Alexander,
with the publication of the Monthale earlier? The fact
is the revival of the knowledge of the resolutions
were the position of the Monthale popular, to
McKleiburg was made about the same in the county
o

judging from the book evidence afforded us, de-eired it.

It now appears since the journals of Coogress have been published and we are admitted benind the access, that when the Meximonary messen-ger arrived in Philadelphia, in June, 1775 the time is used by witedness who show that it was about in o time that Washington set out to take com-mand of the army), that Congress was not at all in accord with the applit of the people by whom he had been sunt. How could that applies assembly live counternance to a declaration of independence, along in a remote region of the country, when their thoughts still clung to reconclination, and every member

bitious design" of independence which their enemies had ascribed to them?

No closed doors upon a deliberative assembly ever served a more valuable purpose than those of the Continental Congress in this emergency against their most confiding friends. The message was doubtless most unwelcome, and might have met with reduke but that war was already beging; it was necessary to keep the spirit of the people up to the lighting point; the co-operation there was a large attendance. Among those

new and results to beep the sprit of the people up to the lighting point; the co-operation of all wend brobably be keeded, even in a war such as was then being waged for the rights of British subjects in America; and it would not do to send back a discouraging reply to men whose conduct implied that they were ready for the most desperate conflict—the North Carolina delegation in Cobpress were authorized to return for answer, that Congress admired the spirit and patriotism of the people, out deemed their action premature. It is obvious that Congress, with sticus services the search of the spirit and patriotism of the people, out deemed their action premature. It is obvious that Congress, with sticus search of it as little of buildin attention as possible. I search to it as little of buildin attention as possible. He was a fewer, a fire opened upon the enemy, when Congress was sending out the figure of the colors, so that they have not come down to us, it is no violent presumption that such measures were prompted by the agency of Congress in all of the policy of reconciliation in which that body was then so earnostly engaged. Certains in the mid of the policy of reconciliation in which that body was then so earnostly engaged. Certains in the mid of the policy of reconciliation in which that body was then so earnostly engaged. Certains in the mid of the policy of reconciliation in which that body was then so earnostly engaged. Certains in the mid of the policy of reconciliation in which that body was then so earnostly engaged. Certains in the mid of the policy of the month on which the alleged meeting was held and in the import of the resolutions, for that it was not the 20th, but the alleged meeting was held and in the import of the resolutions, for that it was not the 20th, but the dates; and we are thankful to the last learned critich the North American Review, that "the people of Mecklenourg were the drist to cut he subjects of a monarchy that there is little liability to mistake it for anything else on the pa

THE QUASI FRIENDS OF THE MECKLENBURG DEC LARATION.

[From the Charlotte (N. C.) Observer, April 28.] We call the attention of our readers to a communication in another column on the subject of Charlotte correspondence of the NEW YORK HERALD, in regard to the Mecklenburg Declaration. It is from the pen of one of the ablest and most zealous friends of the 20th of May Declaration. True, the writer is rather severe on Dr. Phillips, but who can blame him? No one has a higher regard for Dr. Phillips, as a minister and a figher regard for Dr. Phillips, as a minister and a corristian, than we have, and no one places a higher estimate on his natural gifts, but when the Doctor enters the fleid of historical discussion, and assails the most vital spot in the history of his own State, he must not expect to come off altogener unsathed. It is a serious matter for one to attempt to strip from his own State the brightest jewel in her crown, and the robber, whoever he be, and whatever his calling, cannot expect to be met by the guardians of the State's castet with "soft smiles and smooth language." North Carolina has ocen worse treated than any state of the original thirteen. She has been literally stript of everything save her glorious history, and now they are trying to rob her even of that. But the history-bummers, so to speak, will be met by foemen worthy of their steel, and if the Herald will only give the friends of the Mecklenburg Deckleration as late a showing as its enemies, we do not fear the result of the controversy. tion. True, the writer is rather severe on Dr.

THE HERALD'S CHARLOTTE CORRESPONDENT ON THE MECKLENBURG DECLARATION.

MESSES. EDITORS:-There is a universal disjatisfaction in this community in reference to the article published in the NEW YORK HERALD of the 24th on the subject of the Meckienburg Deciarareads it is like that which is so well expressed by your editorial remarks this morning that "the writer does not put the case as strong as he could writer does not put the case as strong as he come have done, with the natural gits which this letter shows he possesses; and we can hardly think his 'neart'ls in the matter." The writer seems to know nothing but what the Rev. Dr. Phillips has written and said. He seems to draw his inspiration from the writings, published and unpublished, of that learned divine. He is evidently in the confidence then of a busy and restless opponent of the 20th May Declaration.

the writings, published and unpublished, of that learned divine. He sevidently in the confidence then of a busy and restices opponent of the 20th May Declaration.

Can it be possible that this sham defence is written at the instance of Dr. Philips, in order that that gentleman may have the opportunity, long known to have been sought by him, of again assailing the 20th May Declaration. Why the editor of the Heralto did not believe his ourrespondent was in earnest, as is shown by the lact that he takes occasion to dissent editorially from that worse than purele suggestion of the writer, what even if the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence is merely a myth, it is not wise to disturb so pleasant an illusion."

A suggestion is ventured for the benefit of this latest apostle of the Mecklenburg Peclaration was written from memory—had been torn of and suppressed, or that such a certificate ever existed, rests upon the unsupported assertion of his hero, this Magnus Apollo of adverse critica. His magazine article—his first contribution, perhaps, to published liferature, which seems to have so completely turned his senses that he has never been able to look at the facts through any other medium—is literally and figuratively the mus sill upon which his satellites have ever since been building. There is no corroborative evidence, veroal or written, to support the mischievous statement made in that magazine article—veroal or written, to support the mischievous statement made in that magazine article, it is lide to repeat and readirm that Governor Swain said so and so, the has left nothing on record to justify the vast amount of fetun and nonsense that is attributed to him in this matter, but, on the contrary, he stands fully committed in support of the 20th May Declaration. Now, if all this toolbie comes, as this late writer in the Heralto asserts, from this unfortunate magazine article, then the statement therein made that an important certificate was suppressed should at once the supported by satisfactory evidence, not

THE FORT TICONDEROGA CENTEN-NIAL

WHITEHALL, May 4, 1875. The following programme of the order of exercises for the Centennial coleuration, Monday, May 10, has been issued :-

10, has been issued:—

"In the name of the Great Jehovah and the Continental Congress."

Contennal at Ticonderoga, Monday, May 10, 1875, commemorating the capture of the fort. Oregon of exercises:—Forencom—Sualise, revenie, one handred genst consolidation of organized bedies and review, under command of deneral Hammond; refreshments; picnic. Alternoon—Formation of line; organizations and citizens; procession moves to the fort grounds, over the rouse taken by Ethan Allen May 10, 1775, and is grawn up about the speaker's stand. Prayer, inuse, addresses by promisent men; grand parade and multary tactics, raiss invoken and placots of special laterest visited. Escoring or guests to cars and boats; parting salute.

It was expected that Rev. Joseph Cook would be among the orators for the occasion, but a letter

be among the orators for the occasion, but a letter from him received here to-day indicates that he will not be assign to active.

Arrangements are boing made for transportation, and the laculities are such that there will implify be a large attendence from New York and Vermon'. Trains and boats will land guests at the fort grounds.

there was a large attendance. Among those present were Adjutant General Townsend, Gen-Colonel Ward, Captain Fulton, Colonel Gildersleeve, General Knox. After some ordinary routine business was disposed of the Treasurer's report was presented, showing the state of the finances, as thus:

Balance on hand.

Beelpts, subscriptions, entertainment, &c. \$2,825.74

Receipts, subscriptions, entertainment, &c. \$4,300 as

The Range Committee reported progress. The
work of erecting a lence is progressing satisfactorily toward completion.

The Floance Committee reported progress,
Captain Fuiton read over a list of the various
prizes to be offered the successin competitors.
The report of the special committee on revising
the rules elicited some discussion. Captain Fuiton said it was proposed not to allow any two
competitors to shoot with one gun. Various
changes were suggested in relation to targets,
fixing the sights and other minute details. Some
deflection in the shade alluded to by General
Townsend were explained by Captain Fuiton as
arising from the quality of the ammunition. Objections were then raised to loading through the
muzzle. Captain Fuiton said he adopted that course
but he never loaded his gun except when about
to fire, and when the firing was interrupted he
immediately extracted the charge. The precaution appears to be generally observed. Captain
Fuiton was of opinion that every man should be
required to have his piece at half cock. Adjutant
weneral Townsend explained his views on the
subject, and, owing to the difference in the construction and action of some triggers, further
precaution was deemed necessary, in his opinion,
it was agreed that the report be adopted. It was
moved and seconded that the Range Committee
be authorized to buy a horse, harness and mowing machine, to be used on the range. A resolution and relation to perintting refreshments on the
range was also adopted.

A communication was then read from Major
Leech, the contents of which have been already
published. Considerable attention was devoted
to the selection of prizes for annual presentation, and it was resolved that the Prize Committee
be authorized to procure designs for three medais, to be awarded successful competitors once a
year. It was unanimously adopted that the association be empowered to o

same to the association.
The meeting then adjourned.

THE BLACK HILLS COUNTRY.

MEETING OF THE INDIAN COMMISSION LAST EVENING-STATEMENT OF MR. STEELE, DELE-GATE FROM WYOMING TEBRITORY.

Last evening the members of the Indian Com mission, consisting of Messrs, Clinton R. Fise (President), E. H. Haight, E. M. Kingsley and F. H. Church (Secretary), with General B. R. Cowen, Assistant Secretary of the Interior, and Hon. E. P. Smith, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, met at the Fifth Avenue Hotel to listen to a statement of Hon. R. W. Steele, Delegate in Congress from Wyoming, in reference to Indian affairs in that Territory.

Mr. Steele stated to the Board and other functionaries present that during last fail he visited the Red Cloud Agency and witnessed the distribution of government suppues. He carefully examined the flour, coffee, sugar and other articles furnished, and suid that they were all of good quality.

Mr. Steele had, he said, no doubt that the government supplies purenased and intended for the Indians were correctly disposed of. The flour was received at Cheyenne and inspected by Cautain Long, Commissary of Subsistence, United States Army. After the Inspection and loading of the goods for the agencies it would have been impossible and impracticable to have made any change without returning the supplies to the line of the railroad, a distance of between 150 and 200 miles. In response to inquiries, Mr. Steele said further that the management at the agency was as good as could well be expected with one agent and a smail force of employes and the very large number of Indians, amounting to about 13,000, under their charge, which prevents necessarily any extensive personal influence to be exercised over them. Nearly all are semi-civilized, but they perform little or nothing in the way of becoming self-supporting. The reservation proper in extent is about equal to the State of Ohio. The soil and climate is diversified in character. There is an abundant supply of wood, water and buffaio.

THE BLACK HILLS COUNTRY is included in the Sioux reservations, and the approximants of serious outbreak in consequence of white intruders or seekers after gold coming among them, to which they are opposed is gradually fading away. A delegation of Sioux are expected from Wyoming in a few days at Washington to enter into a new treaty. The government is desirous of purchasing the right of occupation of the Black Hills country, and there are good grounds for believing that some satisfactory arrangement will be reached by which that comparatively unknown and interesting section will be opened up for settlement and exploration.

Mr. Steele, in conversation, stated that he had no doubt that the Big Horn and Powder Hiver region, when opened to settlement and exploration, will be found extremely rich in the precious metals. This is the ined the flour, codee, sugar and other articles furnished, and said that they were all of good quality.

NEW YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

LECTURE BY JAMES PARTON ON "MANNERS AND MORALS IN THE LAST CENTURY. stated meeting of the New York Historical Society was held last evening at the Library, Second avenue and Eleventh street, Mr. James W. Beekman presiding. The andience was large and included many of our most prominent citizens. After the reading of the usual routine reports the

After the reading of the usual routine reports the Cusirman introduced Mr. James Parton, who had been announced to read a paper on "Manners and Morais in the Last Century."

After saying that we are prone to judge of the improvement of the world or its retrogression by our own disposition and the circumstances which surround each of us rather than by facts, Mr. Parton went on to describe the manner in which the ridiculous superstitions custom of curing the dire disease known as the "King's Evil" was carried on, alluding especially to instances in the time of Lonis the Sixteenth and Marie Antoinetto, and of Charles the Second in England. He instanced this custom as one in which the peers the commons and the clerzy took a most pompous part. He then comerned several distorical men who showed equal weakness in their beliefs. For instance, Wesley said that giving up belief in witcherat was giving up the Bible; and Dr. Johnson, who had himself been toucood by the King for the cure of the "King's Evil" would have said the same. Newton was an alchemist and believed he could make gold out of copper, and Semmier, of Berlin, believed that he could produce the precluss metal out of copper, and Semmier, of Berlin, believed that he could produce the preclus metal out of moist sait, and actually shountted an experiment; but it was afterwards discovered that his servant has secretly inserted gold leaf in the preparation.

WESTMINSTER CHURCH

ANNIVERSARY MEETING LAST NIGHT TO CELE-PRATE THE INCUMBENCY OF THE BEV. G. D. One of the pleasantest church reunions held this

season took place last night in the Westminster Presbyterian courob, Twenty-second street, between Sixth and Seventh avenues. It was in celebration of the anniversary of the incumbency by the present pastor, the Rev. G. D. Matthewa of the ministery of this congregation. The church was completely filled by a very respectable and intelligent congregation. The dialect of the intelligent congregation. The dialoct of the land of Borns was beard on all sides, and ladies whom Eilen Modregor or Joannie Deans night feel satisfied to own as countrywomen lent the charm of their presence to grace the occasion.

The Hev. Mr. Chambers opened the meeting by a prayer, after which the Rev. John Hall, D. D., delivered an eloquent and forcible address on the benefits to be derived from the lufthence of good example. Referring to miniserial habyrs, he said that, "However much fee man might have his minister the wile would like him still more." The Rev. Mr. Mingens next addressed the meeting at leasth. He was particularly severe goon "long-faired men and short-haired women," who absurdly enough persisted in calling themselves psinosophers, and reforming the world, as they parased it, iso had attended a meeting of these reliculous people in the Cooper Union. They could foreign the coming of the minenium, but were majore to point out a single benevolent institution for the care of the minenium, but were majore to point out a single benevolent institution for the care not within the purview of Christian charity are not within the purview of these new-light philosophers. After Mr. Hodgen had sung a very acceptable place from the "Meesiah" the Mor. Dr. Ormiston addressed the compregation, asking in hervid in an address of pipus threnks to his flock and to those around nim or the cooperation which he is receiving in his pasteral work of building up and extending the spiritosi influence of him congregation. Be contrasted its present compregation. Be contrasted in fluence of this congregation. Be contrasted in fluence of this congregation. Be contrasted its present compression. Be contrasted in fluence of this congregation. land of Burns was beard on all sides, and ladies

ditton with its unhappy state a year ago, when it came into his charge. At the end of the closing address Mrs. Garrison sung in charming style that beautinily tender and sweetly pathetic old song. "The Land o' the Leal." She was rapturously encored, and fairly brought down the noise by her rendering of the immous Jenny Lind's favorite Scotch song. "Within a Mile o' Edinboro' Town." The exercises of the evening were closed by prayer, and the meeting adjourned to the floor below, where amole refreshments were laid out for all who wished to partake of them.

SWALLOWING A DIAMOND.

IN HIS EFFORTS TO CONCEAL HIS GUILT A SHOPLITTER SWALLOWS A ONE THOUSAND DOLLAR SOLPTAIRE. Between eleven and twelve o'clock yesterday

morning two strangers entered the jewelry store of Barmore & Co., corner of Maiden lang and Nassau street. One of them accorted the salesman and requested to look at some diamond rings. A number were shown, and as he seemed rather extravagant in his tastes some of the more valuable ones were exhibited. Among the number able ones were exhibited. Among the number was a solitaire diamond ring, the stone of which is valued at \$1,000. This the pseudo purchaser tried on his finger two or three times and examined it in several different lights to discover any possible flaw. In the mean time the other man walked around the store, taking a general survey of the stock, and, once in a while, would come toward where his friend was standing, take up one of the rings in a careless manner, give his opinion as to its quality and as carelessly lay it down again. The salesman throughout kept a very sharp lookent on his customers and counted the rings as he put them on the case and as he returned them to their places. Suddenly he missed the \$1,000 solitaire. The correct number of rings were on the case, but a paste ring had been surreputitiously substituted for the valuable diamond. An officer was sent for numediately, and Officer Terry, of the First precinct, came in before the two men could make their escape and took them both to the station house. Before leaving the store one of them asked to be searched, but the person who seemed desirous of purchasing remised to be searched till he reached the station house. While passing the sub-Treasury building this man was selzed with a violent fit of cougoing and put his handserchief twice to his mouth. Alterward whou searched the ring was nowhere to be found on him, but it is thought that at the time of the violent coughing, which was in all probability shammed, he swallowed the ring. His name is kdward Watson, allas George Hoyt, alias Williams, and he is a notorious thief and snophiter. He was arrested before for snophifting in 1868, and his picture was then taken and placed in the Rogues' Galiery. He has returned out a short time from a five years solouts in the State Prison. The companion of Watson in his bold undertaking yesterday was a man named John H. Rault were brought to the Central Office, before Superintendent Walling, about two o'clock yesterday alternoon, and later in the day were taken was a solitaire diamond ring, the ston-

KATE CRONK'S TRIAL.

A WOMAN CHARGED WITH SHOOTING A MAN

In the Paterson Court yesterday, before Judge Dixon, the trial of Mrs. Kate Cronk for manslaughter, in killing James Luke, alias Decker, was taken up and commenced with the following jury :- William Eakins, Garret L Merselis, Richard Van Iderstine, Charles Hatrick, William Hughes Theodore S. Perry, Christopher Rafferty, Robert Bridge, Jr., Abram Fredericks, William Fortune, Abram Clegg, James Mackel. The following synopsis of the opening of Mr. A.

B. Woodruff, the prosecutor, gives a resume of the case for which the woman is indicted. The killing took place last fail, near Wanaque, Passaic county. Mr. Woodruff said the defendant's maiden name was starr; sile married a man named Youmans, lived with him some time and then they separated, not being divorced, and she went with or married the person with whom she was living at the time of this occurrence, named Joseph Cronk. Deceased was James Luke, but had a nickname, Decker, Joseph Cronk had another wife, whom he had married some time before, and lived with a short time, but they had separated, so that both of the parties had other married mates. Decker, from a conversation which took place at Tice's hotel before the killing, it would seem, had been accustomed to going to see this woman, and she had threateded to shoot him, I believe, before this time On the night in question Joseph Cronk and James Luke were at Henry Tice's hotel; Cronk had left about fifteen minutes past nine ofclock, and about fifteen minutes, after that Luke left. A short time after that, in a very few minutes, Cronk came to a neighbor, Mr. Brown, and said that Kate had shot James Decker, and the went for several of them had assembled there, and they found Lake lying a lew feet from the doorstep of this Gronk's house, with a hole made with a load of shot just above the yea, and the defendant said she had shot him; Sie had wanted to come into the neighbor, see forbade him, and she thereupon shot him. Sie had snatped two caps, and thon went back, got another and shot lim, and that he would not tell any more lies about her. The Grand Jury have seen fit to present this indictment in scan alorm as no petit Jury shall say that this woman was thereby guilty of deliberate murder or not. Murder is the kilding of a person with deliberation. Manelamphter is the stilling of any human being without justification and without mailoe. This indictment is for manislaughter. If you should believe that defendant was guilty of deliberate murder, you will be bound to convex there on this indictment of man the case for which the woman is indicted. The kuling took place last fall, near Wanaque, Passaic

Stangter.

The testimony adduced yesterday was very strong against Mrs. Cronk, and the feeling is that the trial will be brief and result in her conviction for mansiaughter.

THE RAILROAD LABORERS' STRIKE.

WORK ENTIRELY SUSPENDED-A RINGLEADER TWICE FIRED UPON BY A POLICEMAN. Work has been entirely suspended in five of the six shafts of the new tunnel of the Delaware and Lackawanna Railroad. All the men in the employ of Contractor Moandrews are now idle. They had been receiving only \$1 35 a day up to the 1st of April, when the wages were increased fitteen cents a day. Work is prowere increased fitteen cents a day. Work is progressing in shart No. 4 under Contractor Tubbitts, who has treated his laborers so generously that they refused to join in the strike. Tubbitts stated to them yesterday that he is willing to give them ten cents a day more than the men receive in the other shafts. The number of men on strike is 630. Mr. Walsa, the bondsman for Contractor McAndrews, called at the Third precinct station and asked for police protection. Warrants were issued for the arrest of the ringleaders. One man, who was pointed out to Other Lodick, refused to go with the officer and rait away. The officer fired twice at the lugitive, who succeeded in escaping. The men held a consultation last evoning and it was resolved to continue on strike til their demands should be conceded. The men lingered around the different shaits in a threatening attitude during the day. Volence and bloodsbed are feared if new men are piaced at work. Some of the men now on strike arged the adoption of a demand that the contractor be included the men now on strike arged the adoption of a demand that the contractor be included to pay a specified sum to the families of the laborers killed at the work, but it was voted down. The greatest determination to hole out was manifected by the men, and Contractor Meandrews seems equally determined not to yield. He ways be can obtain a luit supply of labor for the rave he has been accustomed to pay, out lears violence at the hands of the men on strike.

NEWARK MANTRAPS.

For months the people of Newark have clamored for some sateguard which shall prevent the almost daily occurrence of accidents at the hundreds of places in the city where steam railroad tracks cross the streets on the level over which there run dally 250 trains. A committee of the Common Council was named some weeks ago to coner with the principal officers of the Pennsylvania Raliroad, who met there yesterdar to discuss the subject. The company was represented by Mr. Wolcut Jackson and Mr. Thompson, with Mr. John P. Jackson connection the road. The Council Committee was attended by City Connect Guid, in whose commons to conference was held. The roadroad representative prolessed to be ready, willing and anxious to do aimost anything the committee desired in the premises. They were propared, they said to put up gates and iences along the fine of their road within the city limits—the chapest thing they could do they said; or they would go shares with the city in sinking the tracks below the level of the streets or rasing them mine enough to admit of bridging the acreet crossings. Mr. Thompson said sinking the stacks was the bester plan, out that would not go to any such expense just now, it appears the committee had not itself agreed upon any definite plan. The impression seemed to prevail that pates and fences would be very objectionable to the attistor living across the railroad. The only thing the committee seemed to be ended upon was that the usure the track from Market according to the attistor for majority of accidence who account. This, the railroad men, declared they were ready to receivly. In set, according to the militod men, they are prepared to cairr out any plan the committee may dictate. The upshot was that no definite universituding was arrived as, and the committee may dictate. The upshot was that no definite universituding was arrived as, and the committee adjourned this to-morrow evening. They expect to be note to make a report on Friday night at the meeting of the council. As may well be limited widespread interest is left in the realists. the Common Council was named some weeks ago to conier with the principal officers of the Penn-

ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION

Deputy Comptroller Earle Attacked by a Desperate City Creditor.

A NARROW ESCAPE.

Comptroller Green's Assistant Saved Only by a Chance.

James A. Duffy, driver of the van by which prisoners are conveyed from the Tombs to the Courts of General Sessions and Over and Terminer, yesterday attempted to shoot Abraham L. Earle, the Deputy City Comptroller; but the attempt proved a failure by reason of the pistol missing fire each time the would-be murderer pulled the trigger. It seems that Duffy has a claim for \$1,100 against the city for turnishing horses for

THE PRISON VAN
when M. T. Brennan was Sheriff. The Comptroller has for upward of a year refused to pay the claim, on the ground that Mr. Brennan has also a claim for conveying prisoners at \$1 75 m decided as to whose claim was the proper one nd payment would be made. Duffy has been persistent in his calls at the Comptroller's office for weeks past, but had never been able to get even a half promise that the money be contends is justly due him would be paid. On Priday last he called at the Mayor's office to make a complaint against the Comptroller for refusing to pay him, but the Mayor being very busy at the time Duffy went away without seeing him. He then acted rather strangely and complained bitterly of the want his family was suffering from by reason of the Comptroller's stubbornness. Yesterday forenoon he made his appearance in the Court House, and was seen lounging about in the corridor near the Comptroller's office for some time before he en-tered the room. Officer Davis, who is detailed as

and was seen lounging about in the corridor ness the Comptroller's office for some time before he entered the room. Officer Davis, who is detailed at the Comptroller's office, was several times accested by Duffy, who asked him repeatedly whether the Comptroller was in and when he might be expected. This at the time did not arouse.

THE OFFICER'S SUSPICIONS, but from what followed soon alterward it is believed that Duffy was lying in wast for Mr. Green, and that he intended to attack him, and not Mr. Earle. About half-past twelve Duffy cutered the Deputy Comptroller's office, and, waking to Mr. Earle's deek, began to tak with him quietly about its claim. He finally grew excited in his conversation, but went out without making any attempt at violence. He returned in a few minnies and again accosted Mr. Earle. He was told that his claim would receive due consideration in time, but that the delay in settling the mainter had been caused by the fact that Mr. Earle, after some further conversation, finally told Duffy to call in again; that he had a few minnies and white speaking got behind the railing which separations in the call may be the final twas settled, and white speaking got behind the railing which separation in the final set of the claim just then. Duffy exclaimed excitedly that it was about time it was settled, and white speaking got behind the railing which separation was about time if was settled, and white speaking got behind the railing which which had river he and almost the form which had river he are the got to the hammer as it rei, and on turning round and seeing buffy had been dealed when buffy it had been dealed when buffy and did not reason the past of the past of the past of the p

he had been drinking; in fact, he confessed that he had.

MR. KABLE'S STATEMENT.

The reporter, shortly after the arrest of Duffy, called upon Mr. Earle, who was surrounded by a large number of the attaches of the City Hall congratulating him on his miraculous escape. He stated that he did not remember ever seeing Duffy but once before, on which occasion the latter demanded payment for his bill. "The claim," said Mr. Earle, "Is not payable at this office. The man was changed by ex-sacriff Brennan for about eleven monats, as I understand it, in conveying prisoners from the courts to the Tombs, and he should look to Mr. Brennan for settlement."

At two P. M. Duffy was taken to the Tombs, where Mr. Earle entered a formal complaint against him, his affidiavit being as follows:—

City and Camby of New York, se.—abraham L. Earle, of

where Mr. Earle entered a formal complaint against him, his similarit by New York, s., - Abraham L. Earle, of the Loundroher's office, deposes and save that on Tuesdar, the 4th day of May, in the Year 1675, at the city of New York, he was violently and feloniously assaulted by James a Duffy, who came him the Comptroher's office and then and there deliberately pointed a pistol, loaded with powder and ball, at and directly toward deponent's person and snapped it; that deponent retreated from him, when he followed dependent and pointed said pistol at deponent and pointed said pistol at deponent scappied with him to prevent him from shooting deponent grappied with him to prevent him from shooting deponent and such that he followed dependent and pointed said buffy did so point said in the control of said and so the said and so the said and without any justification on the part of the said assailant. Therefore, the deponent prays that the said assailant. Therefore, the deponent prays that the said assailant may be apprehented and bound to answer for the assault, &c., and be dealt with a factor of the said assailant. Therefore, the deponent prays that the said assailant may be apprehented and bound to asswer for the assault, &c., and be dealt with a factor of the said assailant may be apprehented and bound to asswer for the countrol before me this 4th day fair. A Shekwoop, Peles Justice.

Duffy, when asked if ne was guilty or not guffly, plenaed "not guilty," and was complicted to await the action of the Grand Jury in default of St. 500 ball.

Looptroller Green, Additor Jackson and several of the attaches of the Comptroller's office were present in the court from during the proceedings.

The prisoner Duffy resides on 105th street, near

eral of the attaches of the Comparoller's office were present in the court from during the proceedings.

Ine prisoner Duffy resides on 105th street, near the Boulevard. At the onibreak of the war he organized the Lincoln cavairy, otherwise known as the First New York, of which he received the appointment of first heutenant. At the conclusion of peace he was appointed a patroman on the police force of this city, which position he occupied prier to entering the army, and was assigned to duty in the Fourierth precinct. In 1870 he resigned from the Police Department, accepted the position of driver of the prison van under sheriff Brennea, which position he still holds under Sheriff Brennea, which position he still holds under Sheriff Conner. Those who are acquainted with Duffy say that he has always borne a good character.

Duffy stated to a good character.

Duffy stated to a good character.

Duffy stated to a good character, and the when he left in the doining he left how without food for the day. He said that he was nearly crazed by his troubles, and leeing that he had a just chaim against the city and that the Compitolier was maliciously keeping him out of his money he grew desperate when in the Compitolier's office. On the other hand, it is stated that he was regularly paid by the Sheriff, and that a warrant of \$22 has been waiting aim in the Compitolier's office for a couple of wocks, being his pay for Maron as an other of the Court of Oyer and Ferminer.

ALLEGED OUTRAGE IN BROOKLYN

A MEMBER OF THE POLICE PORCE IMPLICATED The fact was disclosed in Brooklyn last night that on the 22d uit, a shocking outrage was committed on a young Irish girl by three men, as alleged, with the cognizance and in the presence of a member of the police force. From what could be learned of the facts it appears that on the night in question Mary Mitchell, aged twenty years, night in question Mary Mitchell, aged twenty years, who had been in the country but a few days, went into Madden's liquor store, at Myrile avenue and Raymond street, to inquire for her trother, who is a watchman, while in there sale was insuited by three men, and when she left they followed her. Upon reaching the corner of Raymond and Rollvar streets they select her and outraged her byreen. Ine unfortunate girl did not report the lact to the poice, but it came to the ears of Father Meliray, a Catholic pries, who reported it to the District Attornay. Warrants were issued for the arrest of D. Moya. James Carron and another man whose name not been disclosed. The automent of the girl to the effect that Officer Murray, of the Fourt presided, was present at the time of the occur rones but eld not interiere. An examination will be had to-day before Justice Rues.